

Message

From: Laidlaw, Tina [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=852B291AE2834806B4FBF5B8AB645A94-LAIDLAW, TINA]
Sent: 1/10/2023 8:23:07 PM
To: Darrin Kron [dkron@mt.gov]
Subject: FYI -- from EPA's 2014 IR guidance.

Darrin,

To your question on the use of citizen data, I'm still checking with a few folks. However, the example below may be of interest. It's from our 2014 IR guidance.

Vermont uses public feedback and complaints in addition to field surveys of algae blooms to assess waters for attainment of the above water quality standard. For the swimming/contact recreation use in lakes, waters are considered impaired if an ongoing record of public complaint concerning the algal conditions in the water has been established. For cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), waters displaying ongoing summer blooms of toxin producing cyanobacteria and having microcystin concentrations at elevated levels (i.e., World Health Organization (WHO) guideline of 1 µg/l) are considered impaired. For the drinking water supply use, waters are considered impaired if they display ongoing summer blooms of toxin producing cyanobacteria and have microcystin concentrations in excess of the same WHO guideline above. Additional details on the State's assessment method are available at:

http://www.vtwaterquality.org/mapp/docs/mp_assessmethod.pdf.

Tina Laidlaw
Water Quality Standards / Monitoring and Assessment Teams
EPA Region 8
406-457-5016